

Introduced by Senator Corbett

June 29, 2009

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 51—Relative to earthquakes.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 51, as introduced, Corbett. Earthquake preparedness: the Great California ShakeOut.

This measure would support earthquake preparedness and encourage participation in preparedness activities. This measure would also support the Earthquake Country Alliance's annual Great California ShakeOut and its earthquake education and outreach programs and would endorse this year's October 15, 2009, Great California ShakeOut.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, California and its residents have historically been
2 susceptible to natural hazards, whether it be earthquakes, tsunamis,
3 wildfires, floods, winter storms, droughts, landslides, or volcanic
4 eruptions; and

5 WHEREAS, It should be the intent of the Legislature to
6 recognize the importance of enhancing California's ability to
7 withstand natural hazards, as well as, the importance of reducing
8 the human suffering, property damage, interruption of public
9 services, and economic losses caused by those hazards; and

10 WHEREAS, Major earthquakes pose a particular, significant,
11 and ongoing threat to the entire state; and

12 WHEREAS, It is within the state's responsibility to promote
13 earthquake preparedness with the public and to plan appropriately
14 for earthquake-related disasters; and

1 WHEREAS, From time to time, both houses of the Legislature
2 have formed select committees to study earthquake and disaster
3 preparedness; and

4 WHEREAS, Recent studies project the economic losses from
5 a 7.8 magnitude earthquake on the southern San Andreas fault and
6 a 7.0 magnitude earthquake on the Hayward fault to reach as high
7 as two hundred thirteen billion dollars (\$213,000,000,000) and
8 one hundred seventy-eight billion dollars (\$178,000,000,000)
9 respectively; and

10 WHEREAS, Community resiliency to earthquakes and other
11 disasters depends on the preparedness levels of all stakeholders in
12 the community, including individuals, families, schools, community
13 organizations, faith-based organizations, nonprofit organizations,
14 businesses, and government; and

15 WHEREAS, By joining the Earthquake Country Alliance,
16 California and its agencies can partner with earthquake information
17 and service providers statewide to educate its residents regarding
18 actions that can be taken to protect life and property, including
19 mitigating structural and nonstructural hazards and participating
20 in earthquake drills; and

21 WHEREAS, By participating in the Great California ShakeOut
22 on October 15, 2009, the state has the opportunity to join and
23 support all Californians in strengthening community and regional
24 resiliency to earthquakes; now, therefore, be it

25 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
26 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby supports
27 earthquake preparedness for all residents of California and
28 encourages all stakeholders in the state's economy to participate
29 in preparedness activities; and be it further

30 *Resolved*, That the Legislature hereby supports the Earthquake
31 Country Alliance's annual Great California ShakeOut and its
32 year-round earthquake education and outreach programs and
33 acknowledges the importance of preparing in advance for the
34 purposes of building a safer community and reducing the loss of
35 lives and property damage from future destructive earthquakes;
36 and be it further

37 *Resolved*, That the Legislature hereby endorses the Great
38 California ShakeOut, which will be held this year on October 15,
39 2009, and annually thereafter on the third Thursday of each
40 October; and be it further

- 1 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
- 2 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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